

Testimony of Bob Loy  
Interim CEO  
Director of Environmental Programs  
The Outdoor Circle

Subject: Bill 10  
Relating to the use of bags provided to customers

Honolulu City Council  
Wednesday, March 21, 2012  
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The Outdoor Circle (TOC) wishes to express its support for Bill 10 which bans businesses the distribution of nonbiodegradable plastic at the point of sale.

Plastic bags are used by nearly everyone creating a huge national and statewide solid waste problem. In addition, millions of barrels of oil are used annually manufacturing them.

On Oahu, as elsewhere, plastic bags are a ubiquitous eyesore on our landscape. You cannot go anywhere without seeing plastic bags blowing in the wind, hung up on fences, littering our beaches and so on. The bags also are a threat to marine life.

This legislation will drastically reduce the number of plastic bags used in Hawaii by attacking the problem in the county where they are most used. It also will bring the City and County of Honolulu in line with the other three Hawaii counties which already have ended the use of plastic bags.

As the foremost grassroots organization dedicated to protecting the visual beauty of our islands The Outdoor Circle, on behalf of thousands of statewide members, strongly urges the Council to pass Bill 10.

Respectfully,

Bob Loy  
Interim CEO  
Director of Environmental Programs